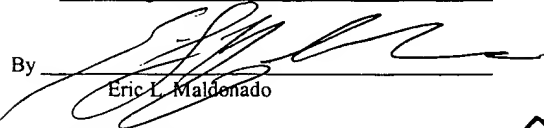


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By 
Eric L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. 100794-11702 (FUJA 18.671)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Ikuya MORIKAWA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/863,583

Filed: May 16, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTED GROUP...

Examiner:

Art Unit: 2161

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August 21, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

Also attached is a copy of the International Search Report dated July 12, 2002 from the corresponding International Patent Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO- 1449 appear in the International Search Report.

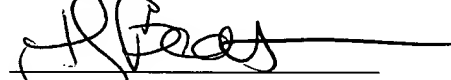
Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Bean

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| 1449870 | U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office | Application No. : 09/863,583 |
| | | Filing Date : MAY 16, 2001 |
| | | First Named Inventor: I. MORIKAWA |
| | | Group Art Unit : 2161 |
| | | Examiner Name : |
| | | Attorney Docket No. : FUJA 18.671 |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | Kind Code if known ² | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | 5,633,931 | | WRIGHT | 05/27/1997 | |
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|-------------------|-----------------------|---|---------|---|--|---|
| | | 99/35783 | WO | CYBERSAFE CORPORATION | 07/15/1999 | |
| | | 0 781 003 | EP | GENERAL INSTRUMENT CORPORATION OF DELAWARE | 06/25/1997 | |
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| | | "PROXY-BASED AUTHORIZATION AND ACCOUNTING FOR DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS" by B. Clifford Neuman Proceedings of the 13 th International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems, Pittsburgh, May 1993: pp. 283-291 | |
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1¹ if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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